

HOUSE BILL 3670

By Turner J

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 6;
Title 7 and Title 8, relative to certain grants which
may be offered by local governments for
development of blighted property.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, Chapter 51, is amended by adding
Sections 2 through 4 as a new, appropriately designated part.

SECTION 2.

(a) It is the public policy of this state that a mechanism should be created to
enable local governments to provide grants which would encourage housing
development or encourage the repair, rebuilding and renovations of existing facilities and
structures in neighborhoods whose stability depends upon the elimination of blight and
the upgrading of structural needs of a facility.

(b) Remodeling and eliminating blight serves a valid public purpose for the
stabilization of the value of the neighborhood and increases the value of the facility being
rehabilitated.

SECTION 3.

(a) As used in this part:

(1) "Blighted" has the meaning ascribed to that term in title 13, chapters
20 and 21; and

(2) "Local government" means a municipality, county or county having a
metropolitan form of government.

(b) Local governments are authorized to develop grant programs to be paid from
the general fund of the local government to home owners and developers who invest in

blighted property for the purpose of stabilizing the value of the neighborhood and increasing the value of the facilities being constructed or rehabilitated which are located on blighted property.

SECTION 4. Prior to offering any grants under a program developed by the local government, the local government shall submit the grant program to the attorney general and reporter for the review and approval of the attorney general to insure the grants will not be offered in an arbitrary and capricious manner and in no way violate:

(1) Constitutional requirements of Article II, Section 28, requiring equal and uniform taxation of property; and

(2) Section 29-17-102(2).

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.